

Rep. Plawecki offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 241.

A resolution to declare March 2016 as American Red Cross Appreciation Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, The American Red Cross was founded by Clara Barton on May 21, 1881, in Washington D.C. as a humanitarian organization to provide lifesaving services and programs; and

Whereas, The Red Cross, under charter from The United States Congress in response to the first Geneva Convention, serves as a link between military personnel and their families; and

Whereas, The Red Cross stands with their mission to assist in emergencies by deploying volunteers and utilizing donors to assuage human suffering through the help of over 700 chapters across the country; and

Whereas, The Red Cross upholds their founding values of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, volunteer service, unity, and universality; and

Whereas, The Red Cross provides over 40 percent of the country's and 75 percent of Michigan's lifesaving blood supply through donors; and

Whereas, The Red Cross began their work in the northern part of Michigan through aiding in forest fire relief efforts; and

Whereas, The Red Cross has been a driving force in alleviating the anguish that the city of Flint has been facing with their lack of clean and drinkable water; and

Whereas, The Red Cross has aided over 41,500 households by providing more than 45,900 cases of water, 29,000 water filters, and 7,000 testing kits; and

Whereas, The Red Cross has opened five water resource sites within the city of Flint, staffed by a team of 76, over half of whom have been brought in from outside the state, that offer water and filters to the residents; and

Whereas, The Red Cross has mobilized 1,800 volunteers and partners to canvass all parts of the city of Flint to distribute water and filters; and

Whereas, The Red Cross has served over 14,000 meals and snacks to government and non-government partners helping in Flint; and

Whereas; The Red Cross has given hope to the residents of Flint who continue to face disaster and hardship; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That members of this legislative body declare March 2016 as American Red Cross Appreciation Month in the state of Michigan. We commend their efforts in the past and present, and for the work they will contribute to our communities in the future. We recognize and appreciate the Red Cross for its accomplishments in emergency response and disaster relief.